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F	OUTIN	G AND	RECOR	D SHEET	]		
SUBJECT: (Optional) H.R. 3029, A Bill to Available to the U.S.	Improve Govern	the Tra	anslation	n and Interpretation Services			
FROM:			EXTENSION	NO. FBIS-879/83	STAT		
Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service				DATE 19 August 1983			
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom	1		
	RECEIVED FORWARDED			to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)			
1. Deputy Director for Science and Technology Room 6E45, Headquarters	MS		2 m	The attached refers to a			
2.				draft bill before Congress relating to State Department's			
3. Office of Legislative Liaison				establishment of a Bureau of Language Services.			
Room 7B24, Headquarters 4.					S		
ATTN: Legislation Divisi	on				STAT		
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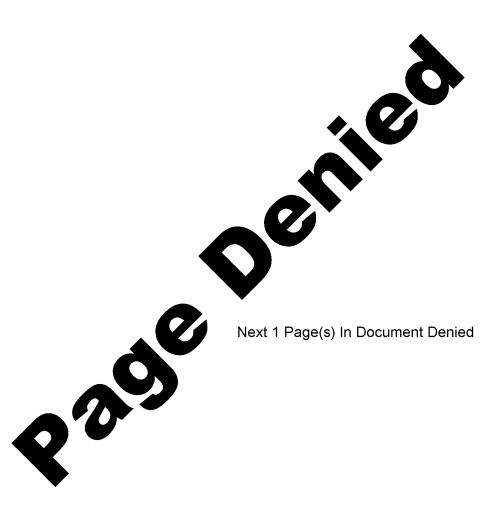
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## 98TH CONGRESS H. R. 3029

To improve the translation and interpretation services available to the United States Government by providing for the establishment within the Department of State of a Bureau of Language Services, to be headed by an Assistant Secretary.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 17, 1983

Mr. Panetta (for himself and Mr. Simon) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

## A BILL

To improve the translation and interpretation services available to the United States Government by providing for the establishment within the Department of State of a Bureau of Language Services, to be headed by an Assistant Secretary.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 That (a) the Congress finds and declares that-
- 4 (1) the availability of competent linguists for
- 5 translation and interpretation services is an essential
- 6 prerequisite for the effective conduct of United States
- foreign policy, and is moreover vital to the Nation's

1	commercial ventures	abroad	and	foreign	intelligence
2	gathering activities;				

- (2) there is a critical and growing gap between the needs of United States Government agencies for foreign language specialists and the available supply of such specialists, and this problem is aggravated by the lack of prominent career paths for linguists in the agencies of the United States Government;
- (3) the ability of linguists presently employed by the United States Government to provide translation and interpretation services in a highly competent and proficient manner is impaired by their subordinate status within the administrative structure of the Department of State and other agencies; and
- (4) more than twenty-five agencies of the United States Government utilize the services of foreign language specialists, and there is a need for greater coordination between these agencies to avoid duplication of work and promote the use of uniform methods of translation.
- 21 (b) There is established in the Department of State, in 22 addition to the positions provided under the first section of 23 the Act of May 26, 1949 (22 U.S.C. 2652), an Assistant 24 Secretary of State for Language Services, who shall be ap-25 pointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent

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1	of the Senate. The Assistant Secretary shall be the head of a
2	Bureau of Language Services and shall be responsible for-
3	(1) improving the translation and interpretation
4	services available to the President, the Department of
5	State, and the Foreign Service;
6	(2) providing a clearinghouse for the collection
7	and dissemination of information on translation and in-
8	terpretation services, including the availability of lin-
9	guists, among all of the agencies of the United States
10	Government;
11	(3) emphasizing the importance of foreign lan-
12	guage skills to United States economic and diplomatic
13	objectives, and promoting the study of key foreign lan-
14	guages by United States citizens through enhancing
15	the role of foreign language specialists in the United
16	States Government; and
17	(4) avoiding duplication of work, and promoting
18	the use of uniform methods of translation, by the var-
19	ious agencies of the United States Government which
20	engage in translation activities.
21	(c)(1) Section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, is
22	amended by adding at the end thereof the following new
23	paragraph:
24	"Assistant Secretary for Language Services, De-
25	partment of State.".

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- 1 (2) The amendment made by paragraph (1) of this sub-
- 2 section shall take effect on October 1, 1983.

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